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Facsimile Transmittal LetterDate February 11, 2004Number of pages including cover sheet 6

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Intellectual Property Paralegal

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OFFICIAL**REMARKS:**

☐ Urgent ☐ For your review ☒ Reply ASAP ☐ Please comment

Application Number: 10/628,601
Filing date: July 28, 2003
First named inventor: Michael J. Berman et al.
Attorney docket number: 01-955/1D / 31692-73091

Transmitted herewith for filing via facsimile:

- Information Disclosure Statement Letter
- Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant PTO/SB/O&A

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below:

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Date

Connie del Castillo
Signature
Connie del Castillo

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Practitioner's Docket No. 01-955/1D

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Michael J. Berman et al.

Serial No.: 10/628,601

Group Art Unit: 2812

Filed: July 28, 2003

Examiner: Luk, Olivia

For: Method And Apparatus For Detecting Backside Contamination During Fabrication Of A Semiconductor Wafer

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

- ☒ WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION
(37 C.F.R. 1.97(b))
- ☐ BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
(37 C.F.R. 1.97(c))
- ☐ AFTER MAILING DATE OF FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE BUT BEFORE
PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE (37 C.F.R. 1.97(d))

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). Copies of each of the references are enclosed.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING

FACSIMILE

- ☐ Deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
- ☒ Transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Date:

Feb. 11, 2004

Signature:


Connie del Castillo

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**I. TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

- A. ☒ THIS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IS SUBMITTED WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)).

The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed:

- ☐ (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application.
- ☐ (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
- ☐ (4) To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3). However, in the event that the USPTO has mailed an Office Action not yet received by the undersigned, a statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) is enclosed, since the disclosures submitted herewith were received by Applicants less than three months prior to the mailing date of this submittal.

- B. ☐ THIS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IS SUBMITTED BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)).

The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of either a final action under 1.113 or a notice of allowance under 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either:

- ☐ (1) a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e).
- ☐ (2) the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 1.97(c). (\$240.00).

- C. ☐ THIS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IS SUBMITTED AFTER MAILING DATE OF FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE BUT BEFORE PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE (37 C.F.R. 1.97(d)).

The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* a final action under 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 1.311, whichever occurs first, but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee.

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d):

- ☐ (1) Accompanying this transmittal is a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e).
- ☐ (2) Applicant hereby petitions for the consideration of the accompanying information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d)(2).
- ☐ (3) Applicant submits the petition fee set forth in 1.17(i) (\$130.00).

II. STATEMENT FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)

I, the person(s) signing below state:

- (1) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).

OR

- (2) that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

III. FEE DUE

- ☒ No Fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).
- ☐ No Fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c).
- ☐ Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) \$180.00 (37 C.F.R. 1.17(p)).
- ☐ Petition fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) \$130.00 (37 C.F.R. 1.17(i)).

IV. METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEE

- ☐ Attached is a check for \$_____.
- ☐ Charge Account 12-2252 \$_____.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Account 12-2252.

Signature of Practitioner



Timothy Croll
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 36,771
Telephone No. (408) 433-7625

Date: 11 Feb. 04

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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/628,601
Filing Date	July-28, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael Berman
Group Art Unit	2812
Examiner Name	Olivia Luk
Attorney Docket No.	31692-70168 / 01-965/1D

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code (if known)			
		5,295,777		Hodos	03-22-1994	
		5,773,989		Edelman et al.	06-30-1998	
		5,963,315		Hiatt et al.	10-05-1999	
		5,972,725		Wollesen et al.	10-26-1999	
		6,060,715		England et al.	05-09-2000	
		6,107,107		Bruce et al.	08-22-2000	
		6,164,894		Cheng	12-26-2000	
		6,211,961		Maris	04-03-2001	

Examiner signature		Date consid red	
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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office.